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The Green Revolution Australia

Ash Richardson, Founder

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The Legalising Bill 2023 is being voted on by you on the 27th of November, 2024.

Why should you support the Legalisation of Cannabis? We have researched all the evidence presented across all the public Submissions, and the testimony given at the 2nd Parliamentary Hearing to present to you the most relevant For and Against arguments, so you can make the most informed decision when it comes to your vote.

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| **FOR LEGALISATION** | **AGAINST LEGALISATION** |
| Of the 202 Submissions put forward on this Bill, **192** were in support of the Bill. | Of the 202 submissions put forward on the bill, **10** public submissions were against the Bill. |
| 13 Organisations put forward Submissions with direct sources and evidence, while the rest of the Submissions relied mostly on anecdotal evidence from utilising Cannabis or witnessing friends and/or family utilise it. | only 5 of the 10 submissions against the bill provided sourced information that supported their argument. |
| **191 Sources** were provided in support of Cannabis from those Organisations and those sources directly addressed the concerns of those against Legalisation. Some of these sources were statistics or data in relation to Cannabis, both in Australia and globally. | Collectively, there were **118 sources** used in those 5 submissions, however a portion of these sources are general statistics, and a smaller portion are not critical of Cannabis. |
| No organisation was found to be tied together or collecting money together, but rather just connected by their support of The Bill. | 3 of the organisations that put forward submissions against the bill are a part of a taskforce called “The Australian Taskforce for Drug Prevention”, alongside other organisations, not among the submissions. Until recently, the taskforce was trying to raise “$35,000 to disseminate news of the best scientific studies on cannabis via an extensive social media campaign with full accountability to donors.” They raised $415 before closing their Gofundme. |

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| **REASONS FOR LEGALISING** | **REASONS FOR NOT LEGALISING** |
| A regulated and safe market where the product they are accessing is as labelled, contains the relevant information needed when consuming a Cannabis product, and a safe pathway to access products instead of having to deal in the Black Market. | The potential increase of Cannabis Use in Australia, based on studies from Countries and States who had legalised Cannabis recreationally. |
| The decline of Criminal enterprises that make billions selling Cannabis illegally, and access to a legal market, with evidence from legalised Countries and States that show increased access to the Legal Market consistently. | The potential “associated health and social burdens of cannabis [use and] misuse” (*NT Police Force)* |
| The extensive amount of money that will be made through the taxed sales of Cannabis products, with a “5% tax rate [delivering] a total of $28 billion over 9 years, and a 25% tax [delivering] over $36 billion.” This is quoted from The Green’s Legalising Bill 2023 breakdown. | How Cannabis affects those who are driving or intend to drive, and how long alleged impairment lasts for those driving after consuming Cannabis. |
| Police resources being utilised toward issues that could be prioritised, such as family and domestic violence. | The supposed “negative impacts” that legalising Cannabis would have on our Indigenous Communities and Rural Communities. |
| A decline in over-policing, particularly in relation to Indigenous and First Nations communities. |  |
| That instead of the 90% of Cannabis arrests being consumers, the arrest majority will shift to Illegal Suppliers. |  |
| How Legalisation allows room for change and growth in our understanding of Cannabis, and can be tested, studied and researched in actively better ways. |  |
| Being able to grow Medical or Recreational Cannabis at home, which extends access for those who may not be able to access the Medical or Recreational markets traditionally.  As with Alcohol and driving limits, being able to test for the level of Cannabis in a driver’s system, and being able to scientifically discover the legal and “safe” amount of Cannabis for drivers, in comparison to “unsafe” amounts rather than just the presence alone, which is being developed and utilised in other Countries and States that have legalised Cannabis. |  |
| Legally being able to consume a product that is enjoyable for many people in the same way that Alcohol is accessible for those who enjoy it. |  |

We believe, based on all evidence, that Australia is ready for a regulated and legal Cannabis market, and the associated harms of Legalisation will never be worse than the harms of Prohibition, with all evidence backing up this conclusion.

We have written and attached an extensive report that breaks down and fact-checks all the evidence submitted toward The Legalising Cannabis Bill 2023 and addresses any lies or misinformation that were a part of anyone’s evidence.

We have also collected extensive data on all the For and Against arguments that can be provided if you so wish.

Our warmest regards, and best wishes for the 27th

Ash Richardson, Founder and CEO

Jenny Hallam, Co-Founder and Creative Director

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